

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 OES-07 INT-05 NASA-02 AID-05  
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 IO-14 SS-15 NSC-05  
SP-02 TRSE-00 ABF-01 OMB-01 /090 W  
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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1299

UNCLAS BANGKOK 7172

USIA FOR IEA, IOP/M, IBS, IPS, IOR/RIM

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: U.S. OFFERS TO HELP FINANCE REMOTE SENSING TRAINING CENTER  
IN BANGKOK

FOLLOWING FOR RELEASE AT 0245 HOURS GMT MARCH 10

1. BANGKOK, MARCH 10-- THE UNITED STATES TODAY OFFERED TO HELP FINANCE ESTABLISHMENT NEAR BANGKOK OF A SOUTHEAST ASIAN REGIONAL REMOTE SENSING CENTER FOR TRAINING ASIAN SPECIALISTS TO USE U.S. SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY IN THEIR COUNTRIES'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
  2. THE CENTER WOULD BE AT THE ASIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHONOLOGY (AIT) NEAR THE THAI CAPITAL AND EMPLOY AIT'S COMPUTER CENTER.
  3. THE OFFER WAS MADE BY ANDREW YOUNG, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN A MESSAGE TO THE 34TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE U.N. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP) NOW MEETING IN BANGKOK. YOUNG'S MESSAGE WAS READ FOR HIM BY AMBASSADOR MELISSA F. WELLS, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE U.N. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, ESCAP'S PARENT ORGANIZATION. YOUNG'S PLANS TO ATTEND THE ESCAP CONFERENCE WERE CANCELLED BECAUSE OF THE U.N.
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SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION ON RHODESIA TAKING PLACE IN NEW YORK.

4. YOUNG SAID HE HOPED ESCAP MEMBERS WOULD USE THE CENTER WHEN IT BECOMES OPERATIONAL.
5. OFFICIALS OF THE U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID) SAID IN BANGKOK THE U.S. IN PREPARED TO DONATE TWO

MILLION DOLLARS TO BEGIN A THREE-YEAR PROGRAM AT AIT, LOCATED 45 KILOMETERS OUTSIDE THE THAI CAPITAL. PARTICIPATING ASIAN COUNTRIES WOULD PROVIDE A TOTAL OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

6. UNDER THE SCHEME, SOME 165 STUDENTS FROM 10 TO 12 ASIAN COUNTRIES WOULD BE TRAINED TO USE PHOTOGRAPHS AND OTHER DATA FROM U.S. EARTH RESOURCES SATELLITES TO IMPROVE WEATHER FORECASTING, MEASURE LAND USE, MAKE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION SURVEYS TO PREVENT LAND EROSION AND INCREASE AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT. OTHER USES OF SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY WOULD ALSO BE TAUGHT.

7. TWO GENERAL COURSES WITH 40 STUDENTS WOULD BE OFFERED EACH YEAR. FOR PERSONS ALREADY FAMILIAR WITH REMOTE SENSING TECHNIQUES, AN ADVANCED COURSE FOR 15 INDIVIDUALS FOCUSING ON SPECIFIC COUNTRY PROBLEMS WOULD BE PROVIDED.

8. THAILAND'S NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL WOULD SERVE AS COORDINATING BODY FOR THE TRAINING PROGRAM. THE UNITED STATES WOULD PROVIDE TWO RESIDENT INSTRUCTORS FROM THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OFFICE IN WASHINGTON. AIT'S COMPUTER CENTER WOULD PROCESS DATA FROM VARIOUS U.S. SATELLITES, INCLUDING THE LANDSAT SERIES NOW IN ORBIT.

9. USID OFFICIALS SAID BANGKOK WAS SELECTED FOR THE PROPOSED TRAINING CENTER BECAUSE OF ITS CENTRAL LOCATION AND THE AIT COM-

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PUTER FACILITY.

10. THE CENTER WILL PROVIDE THE SAME KIND OF TRAINING THE U.S. NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA) HAS BEEN CONDUCTING IN THE U.S. FOR YEARS, THEY NOTED. BUT THE COURSES

AT AIT WOULD BE TAILORED TO THE NEEDS OF ASIAN COUNTRIES, THE OFFICIALS ADDED.

ABOVE RELEASE AT 0245 HOURS, GMT MARCH 10  
MCGINLEY

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** TSPA, ECON, TH, US  
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